

**MISSION VISIONS WORK SHOP
CITY COUNCIL, NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS, AND
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
OCTOBER 9, 1999**

The session started at 9:00 a.m. in the Public Safety Building Community Meeting Room.

Attendees:

Table 1: Jean Johnson, Lillie Moore, Keith Faust, Sue Trotter, Carolyn Tomei.
Table 2: Paul Verbout, Forris Frick, Ed Zumwalt, Bob Hatz, and Rob Kappa.
Table 3: Donald Hammang, Judy Borden, Howard Steward, and Mary King.
Table 4: Bernice Vickerman, Alan Fletcher, Mart Hughes, and Jeff Marshall.
Table 5: Gary Michael, David Aschenbrenner, Jim Schierholz, and Larry Lancaster.

Staff Present: City Manager Bartlett; Assistant City Managers Bennett and Richards; Police Chief Kanzler; Neighborhood Services Manager Gregory.

Facilitator: Mike Swanson

Mayor Tomei greeted the attendees and Swanson reviewed the day's agenda.

Responses to "What do you expect to get out of today's meeting?"

Carolyn Tomei

- Hear from the community about the mission and vision
- Make sure the story gets out to the community
- Get more feedback about what can be done better.

Jean Johnson -- 58 year resident from Ardenwald

- People want to see Main Street revitalized and look more like Lake Oswego
- Better stores and restaurants
- Put a McMenamin's on the Jr. High School site
- People are living in school buses in Ardenwald -- real eyesores
- More temporary garages with more parked cars
- City needs to be more alert -- use codes
- She enjoys being a part of a neighborhood that cares

Lillie Moore -- 52 year resident

- Push community spring clean up more -- encourage more attractive neighborhoods
- Get people to take care of what they have
- Businesses are moving out because no place to park.
- People need to start walking or taking public transportation

Sue Trotter -- 26 year resident; Ledding Library Board Chair

- Interest is in children and education
- As Ledding Library Board Chair she is concerned with how the Library will fit with the riverfront/downtown development

Bob Hatz -- 82 year resident; Citizens Utility Advisory Board (CUAB) Vice Chair; and Linwood Neighborhood District Association (NDA) Land Use Committee

- He is pleased with the improvements he is seeing
- His main interest is the riverfront

Paul Verbout -- 8 year resident; Riverfront Board member

- Interested in revitalizing downtown, riverfront, and McLoughlin Blvd.
- Make downtown livable and usable for citizens

Ed Zumwalt -- 31 year resident; Library Board member; and Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood District Association (NDA)

- Funding and stability for the Library
- More neighborhood revitalization and increased citizen involvement in meetings like this -- include youth
- What are plans for downtown beyond Crandall?
- More emphasis on Milwaukie history in the downtown/riverfront plans

Forris Frick -- 45 year resident; Lake Road NDA

- Has not seen a lot of changes over the years
- A major thing to work on is Lake Road itself and put up some signs to keep trucks off
- Concerned about urban forestry decisions and how they will impact trees on private property and street trees

Mary King -- 30ish years; City Councilor

- Would like to see a vehicle for communication
- Build consensus
- Communicate quickly and efficiently
- Develop community pride
- Increase participation
- Mission and Vision Statement contain a vehicle for change

Judy Borden -- Planning Commission

- Came to listen
- Personally want downtown and riverfront revitalized
- Improve appearance of McLoughlin Boulevard
- Modify code to require better property maintenance

Howard Steward -- Planning Commission

- Wants to listen
- Create planning policies that make the city a good place to live in the future -- 30 years from now for today's children

Mart Hughes -- 30ish years; Park and Recreation Board; and Wetlands Steward

- City takes on active stewardship for parks, open spaces, natural areas, and wetlands
- Active with creeks and preservation of fish
- Address regional issues
- Enlarge plans -- current plans fall short

Jeff Marshall -- 16 year resident, Councilor

- Here to listen
- Keep the small town feel
- Upgrade downtown and neighborhoods

Molly Hanthorn -- Milwaukie Center/Community Advisory Board; and Island Station NDA

- Start mentoring youth
- Hearing that people have similar desires

Bernice Vickerman -- Hector Campbell NDA

- Concerned with 37th Avenue and Railroad intersection
- Concerned about trees
- Concerned about infill and lack of roads to carry traffic

Gary Michael -- Island Station NDA; Milwaukie Downtown Development Association (MDDA) Visual Arts Committee Chair

- Improve the appearance of downtown and neighborhoods

Larry Lancaster -- 24 year resident; City Councilor

- Culminates and defines a good process for getting ideas and desires out to the people
- Walk out of the meeting with a good product that reflects what people really want

Jim Schierholz -- 66 year resident; Traffic Safety and Transportation Board (TSTB)

- Here to listen
- Interested in riverfront improvements
- Improve Railroad Avenue so it can be used

Dave Aschenbrenner -- 9 year resident; Traffic Safety and Transportation Board (TSTB); and Hector Campbell NDA Land Use Chair.

- Concerned about streets and railroad crossings
- Work on revitalizing the downtown area
- Learn more about the City and help shape its future

Rob Kappa -- City Councilor

- Listen to people's thoughts

Alan Fletcher -- Citizens Utility Advisory Board (CUAB)

- Here to listen and give input

Keith Faust -- Historic Milwaukie NDA

- Develop a good Vision Statement

Swanson heard that time was important to the people in the room -- for example, how long they have lived in Milwaukie. Time is an investment, and the people in this meeting have an investment in their community. The community leadership has two important functions:

1. Responsible for creating the Mission Statement -- it tells, in a memorable sound bite, why the City is here; and
2. Responsible for developing the Vision Statement or a picture of what people want the City to look like in the future.

Why Bother? Mission and Vision Statements can make things happen. People in this room can create a legacy and develop a clear direction statement so people can participate and communicate. Statements provide a vehicle for accountability so people know what the City is doing.

Tomei gave a brief overview of how the draft Mission and Vision Statements were developed over a period of about a year:

- Kezziah Watkins town hall
- Community survey
- Neighborhood visioning
- Board and Commission work plans and goals.
- City Council opening up lines of communication
- Creating a new vision for the new millennium

Gregory reviewed the process through which the neighborhood visions were created after a year of intensive work culminating with Council adoption at the end of the year.

Swanson reviewed the timelines for adopting the Mission and Vision Statements, and Gregory discussed the review period.

Process follow-up -- did it work well?

Table 1

- Worked well

Table 2

- Good start but not the end of the work that needs to be done
- Continue to address other issues

Table 3

- Process was fabulous
- Values being carried forward
- Lots of discussion about formatting

Table 4

- Liked the process
- Good for discussion and collaboration
- Like use of marker

Table 5

- Use of markers good idea to get things going -- helps identify areas of agreement/disagreement
- However, did not like the marker colors

It was consensus of those present that the process would probably work well with Boards and Commissions and NDAs.

How do you feel about the substance of the statements?

Table 3

- Needs to be more succinct -- not so much flowery language
- Commonality of terminology -- i.e., what's a "destination"
- Problem with "-ests" because they are hard to live up to
- More environmental awareness
- Do not use references to 21st Century
- Use action words -- not passive

Table 4

- Mission statement: *"Small town values, for a lifetime."*
- Generally agree -- pretty good document
- Why reference 2020 in the Vision Statement?
- Re-think some words -- "happy" residents, "affordability"
- Use Kellogg Creek when talking about waterways
- Public Safety -- "sense of safety" is more like a perception than a reality or standard
- Infrastructure may be the wrong heading because it talks more about services -- "adequate" is probably not a good word so how about "quality"
- "fair cost" out, use "responsible"
- do not like term "inspired visitors" in Vision Statement

Table 5

- Agreed with Table 4 comments
- Vision Statement -- no "2020", "happy" residents, or "inspired" visitors
- Make *"Our children are thriving and proud of the place we have made"* the last sentence.
- Concerned about reference to "living wage" -- use "promoting" instead of "providing" a living wage (lots of input on "living wage" and what kinds of jobs/wages people thought should be in the community)
- Set standards
- Look at the document from the planning perspective -- what are the land use implications?
- Concise document -- length is good considering so many topics
- Cultural resources -- add education

Table 1

- Appalled by the section on transportation -- re-do the whole thing
- Too much auto -- encourage pedestrian options
- People want to protect the environment, but they never take the bus or walk
- Youth activities to help lower crime rate -- do not like "lowest crime rate" reference
- Unique city with accessible riverfront
- Unique small town atmosphere
- Infrastructure development should pay for itself
- *"In the year 2020, Milwaukie has preserved from its past and taken advantage of opportunities by incorporating values of its citizens and remaining a strong partner in the region. Involved residents and visitors enjoy a dynamic downtown that connects to a unique, accessible riverfront. Our neighborhoods are peaceful enclaves of safety and affordability. Our strong community-based planning ethic affects how we live, work, play and travel to and from our City situated in the Willamette-Johnson Creek Watershed."*

Table 2

- Listen to individual recommendation for the draft vision statement
- Mission statement -- 21st century is cutesy, growing with grace okay; not much interest in other
- Include dispatch in public safety section
- Paths need to be connected
- Development that compliments public amenities -- setbacks, sidewalks, downtown
- Controversy on tree issue -- trees on private property need to be discussed in a different setting -- trees in public right-of-way are amenities
- Transportation -- change to "usable waterways"
- Regional connections -- good visibility, speed, NDA involvement with any development
- Cultural resources -- Library is a definite anchor and needs to connect with the rest of downtown
- Built environment -- signage downtown -- no big electric signs
- Enticing entrance to the City -- appealing and attractive -- define downtown boundaries
- Economic development consensus is livability issue and need to look at increasing the tax base, not the tax rate
- Infrastructure -- need more input from the NDAs to help develop choice
- Fiscal accountability -- specific accountability systems to make it easier for the citizens and taxpayers to read and understand
- Want a virtual reality City Council

Other Comments:

Verbout -- Important to get the youth perspective, perhaps beginning with teachers who want to get involved.

Moore -- Clackamas High School Key Club worked hard on Water Tower park improvements.

Johnson -- Appreciates what has been able to happen through the Neighborhood Grant Program.

Deadlines: Gregory would have "kits" ready for liaisons to bring to the monthly NDA meetings. The group agreed on a two-month review process with the deadline for NDA and board and commission input moved to December 9th.

Critique of the meeting

- Good start
- Have some kind of projection of what it will take for the City to survive in the future
- What kind of growth and what kind of services will be needed?
- People work together when they have a project
- Like having a time structure
- Need to follow through on identified projects

The meeting ended at 1:00 p.m.

Pat DuVal, Recorder